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Lawyer Sues CIA on Mail

A Yale University Law School graduate, who spent a year as an exchange student in the Soviet Union, is suing the CIA for \$120,000, charging the agency opened and copied personal letters he mailed to and from Moscow.

Michael Avery, 31, who practices law in New Haven, said the suit seeks \$20,000 for each of six letters the Central Intelligence Agency admitted it opened while he studied for one term at the University of Moscow in 1968-69. The suit, filed last week by the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union in U.S. District Court in Hartford, charged the CIA opened the letters as part of a "massive, covert and illegal operation throughout the United States" involving thousands of personal letters written by U.S. citizens.

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